

1. An airbag deployment guide assembly, comprising:  
a guide member mountable adjacent an airbag, the guide member slidably movable from a retracted position to a guiding position for guiding deployment of the airbag.
2. The guide assembly of claim 1, wherein the guide member is positionable substantially parallel to a window of a vehicle in the guiding position.
3. The guide assembly of claim 1, further comprising at least one guide rail slidably retaining the guide member.
4. The guide assembly of claim 3, wherein the guide member has at least one rail engagement arm, such that the at least one guide rail slidably retains the at least one rail engagement arm.
5. The guide assembly of claim 1, wherein the deployment of the airbag moves the guide member from the retracted position to the guiding position.
6. The guide assembly of claim 5, wherein the guide member has a roughed surface to facilitate a frictional pull of the guide member from the retracted position to the guiding position by the deploying airbag.

7. The guide assembly of claim 1, wherein the guide member is mountable adjacent the airbag on an inboard side of the airbag when the guide assembly is installed within a vehicle.

8. The guide assembly of claim 1, wherein the guide member is mountable adjacent a B-pillar of a vehicle.

9. The guide assembly of claim 1, wherein the guide member is substantially planar.

10. The guide assembly of claim 1, wherein the guide member is mountable in the retracted position behind a headliner of a vehicle, such that the guide member extends below the headliner of the vehicle in the guiding position.

11. The guide assembly of claim 1, further comprising a catch that releasably retains the guide member in the retracted position.

12. An airbag deployment guide assembly, comprising:
- a guide member mountable adjacent an airbag, the guide member extendable from a retracted position to a guiding position that is substantially parallel to a window of a vehicle for guiding deployment of the airbag.
13. The guide assembly of claim 12, further comprising at least one guide rail slidably retaining the guide member.
14. The guide assembly of claim 13, wherein the guide member has at least one rail engagement arm, such that the at least one guide rail slidably retains the at least one rail engagement arm.
15. The guide assembly of claim 14, wherein the guide member slidably extends from the retracted position to the guiding position as directed by the at least one guide rail.
16. The guide assembly of claim 15, wherein the deployment of the airbag extends the guide member from the retracted position to the guiding position.
17. The guide assembly of claim 16, wherein the guide member has a roughed surface to facilitate a frictional pull of the guide member from the retracted position to the guiding position by the deploying airbag.

18. The guide assembly of claim 16, wherein the guide member is mountable adjacent the airbag on an inboard side of the airbag when the guide assembly is installed within the vehicle.

19. The guide assembly of claim 18, wherein the guide member is mountable adjacent a B-pillar of the vehicle.

20. The guide assembly of claim 18, wherein the guide member is substantially planar.

21. The guide assembly of claim 20, wherein the at least one guide rail and the guide member is mountable behind a headliner of a vehicle when the guide member is in the retracted position, such that the guide member extends below the headliner in the guiding position.

22. The guide assembly of claim 21, further comprising a catch that releasably retains the guide member in the retracted position.

23. An airbag deployment guide assembly, comprising:  
a guide member slidably movable from a retracted position to a guiding position for guiding a deployment of an airbag, the guide member being substantially planar; and  
a guide rail slidably retaining the guide member, the guide rail mountable in a headliner of a vehicle adjacent the airbag.

24. The guide assembly of claim 23, wherein the guide member is positionable substantially parallel to a window of the vehicle in the guiding position.

25. The guide assembly of claim 23, wherein the deployment of the airbag moves the guide member from the retracted position to the guiding position.

26. The guide assembly of claim 25, wherein the guide member has a roughed surface to facilitate a frictional pull of the guide member from the retracted position to the guiding position by the deploying airbag.

27. The guide assembly of claim 23, wherein the guide rail is mountable in the headliner on an inboard side of the airbag when the guide assembly is installed within the vehicle.

28. The guide assembly of claim 23, wherein the guide rail is mountable in the headliner adjacent a B-pillar of the vehicle, such that the guide member is adjacent the B-pillar in the guiding position.

29. The guide assembly of claim 23, wherein the guide member has at least one rail engagement arm, such that the guide rail slidably retains the at least one rail engagement arm.

30. The guide assembly of claim 23, wherein the guide member extends below the headliner of the vehicle in the guiding position.

31. The guide assembly of claim 23, further comprising a catch that releasably retains the guide member in the retracted position.

32. An airbag deployment guide assembly, comprising:  
an inflatable curtain deployable adjacent a side structure of a vehicle; and  
a guide member movable from a retracted position to a guiding position, the guide member shaped to guide the inflatable curtain substantially parallel to a side window of the vehicle during deployment, the inflatable curtain having a surface for contacting and extending the guide member from the retracted position to the guiding position during deployment.

33. The guide assembly of claim 32, further comprising at least one guide rail slidably retaining the guide member.

34. The guide assembly of claim 33, wherein the guide member has at least one rail engagement arm, such that the at least one guide rail slidably retains the at least one rail engagement arm.

35. The guide assembly of claim 32, wherein the guide member is mountable adjacent the airbag on an inboard side of the airbag when the guide assembly is installed within the vehicle.

36. The guide assembly of claim 32, wherein the guide member is mountable adjacent a B-pillar of the vehicle.

37. The guide assembly of claim 32, wherein the guide member is substantially planar.

38. The guide assembly of claim 32, wherein the guide member is mountable in the retracted position behind a headliner of the vehicle, such that the guide member extends below the headliner in the guiding position.

39. The guide assembly of claim 32, further comprising a catch that releasably retains the guide member in the retracted position.

40. The guide assembly of claim 32, wherein the guide member has a roughed surface to facilitate a frictional pull of the guide member from the retracted position to the guiding position by the deploying airbag.



41. A method of guiding deployment of an inflatable curtain with a deployment guide assembly comprising a guide member mounted adjacent an inflatable curtain, the guide member slidably movable from a retracted position to a guiding position, the method comprising:

deploying the inflatable curtain such that the inflatable curtain contacts the guide member upon deployment;

moving the guide member from the retracted position to the guiding position with the deploying inflatable curtain; and

guiding the deployment of the inflatable curtain substantially parallel to a window of a vehicle with the guide member.

42. The method of claim 41, wherein moving the guide member from the retracted position to the guiding position comprises extending the guide member below a headliner of the vehicle in the guiding position.

43. The method of claim 41, wherein moving the guide member with the inflatable curtain comprises moving the guide member through the use of friction created between the guide member and the deploying inflatable curtain when the inflatable curtain contacts the guide member.

44. The method of claim 41, wherein the deployment guide assembly further comprises guide rails mounted on an inboard side of the inflatable curtain, wherein guiding the deployment of the inflatable curtain comprises guiding the inflatable curtain between an occupant and a side structure of the vehicle.